



The Community Partnership
For The Prevention
Of Homelessness

A Summary of the 2011 Point in Time Enumeration for the District of Columbia

On January 27, 2011 the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness conducted the 11th annual Point in Time enumeration for the District of Columbia. This count of homeless and formerly homeless persons is done in accordance with U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development's reporting standards.

**TCP
Fact Sheet**

**Point in Time
2011**

Persons counted during the enumeration are also surveyed, providing some of the most comprehensive data collected throughout the year. This "snapshot" look at the District's Continuum of Care provides insight on the size and scope of the homeless population on a given day and helps the city identify gaps in services and plan for the future.

Homelessness in the District

On January 27th, **6,546** *literally homeless* persons were counted in the District of Columbia. This includes **3,553** unaccompanied persons and **2,688** persons in homeless families in the city's Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing facilities. An additional, **305** unsheltered persons – men and women "living on the street" – were also counted.

On the whole, the 2011 count was virtually unchanged from Point in Time 2010 which resulted in a count of **6,539**. However, there were substantial year-to-year changes in the categories that make up the count – the unsheltered count dropped by nearly **30 percent** while the number of homeless families increased by more than **seven percent**.

Severe weather during the week Point in Time was held appears to have been the driving force behind the increase in single persons in emergency shelter (and the decrease in unsheltered persons counted), while continued demand for shelter and housing among families again contributed to the increase in that population.

	PIT 2010	PIT 2011	% Change
Unsheltered Persons	430	305	-29.1%
Single Persons in Emergency Shelter	2,593	2,636	1.7%
Single Persons in Transitional Housing	993	917	-7.7%
Families in Emergency Shelter	318	326	2.5%
Families in Transitional Housing	482	532	10.4%

Quick Facts from PIT 2011

- There were **2,093** "chronically homeless" single persons counted in the District of Columbia. Per HUD, these are disabled persons who have been homeless for more than a year or who have been homeless three times in the last four years.
- 2011 marked the first Point in Time count in which families could also be counted as chronically homeless. At PIT, there were **134** chronically homeless families residing in the District's emergency shelters.
- The median age of single homeless persons surveyed was **50 years old** while median age among adults in homeless families was **29**.
- **12 percent** of homeless adults surveyed reported being veterans of the U.S. Military.
- **26** unaccompanied minors were counted in shelter and transitional housing; a total of **1,620** children and youth were residing in family shelter or housing with parents or guardians.
- **49 percent** of all homeless adults reported having no income of any kind; median income for those with at least one income source was just \$635 per month.
- **1,307** cases of chronic substance abuse and **1,131** cases of severe mental illness were reported among the homeless; **13 percent** of those surveyed reported living with both conditions concurrently.
- **Three in ten** adult homeless persons reported a chronic health problem, and 19 percent reported a physical disability.
- **660** homeless persons, including **142** children, reported experiencing domestic violence prior to becoming homeless.
- **20 percent** of homeless adults reported a past stay in an institutional setting, such as a hospital, mental health or substance abuse treatment facility, the foster care system, or jail or prison.
- Fewer than **18 percent** of persons in shelter or housing in the District had lived outside of the city prior to becoming homeless.

Permanent Supportive Housing and the Formerly Homeless

The number of *formerly homeless* persons – persons residing in Permanent Supportive Housing – has increased for the third consecutive year. During Point in Time 2011, there were a total of **3,155** unaccompanied persons and **669** families residing Permanent Supportive Housing in the District of Columbia. The number of single persons housed has grown by **nine percent** since 2010, though the number has increased by more than **60 percent** since 2008. Among families, the number housed increased by more than **40 percent** in the last year, and is up by nearly **90 percent** from just three years ago.

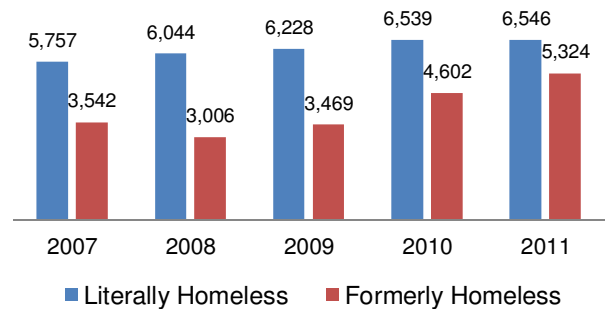
The increase in persons residing in Permanent Supportive Housing is primarily due to the continued expansion of the District's Permanent Supportive Housing Program (PSHP) which has housed more than 1,200 of the city's most vulnerable homeless individuals and families since it began in 2008.

In addition to PSHP, The Community Partnership has done extensive work with both the local and federal government to help bring additional Permanent Supportive Housing projects to the District. Several new projects designed to house the chronically homeless, homeless veterans, and homeless families are scheduled to begin operating throughout the remainder of 2011 and in 2012. The District's Permanent Supportive Housing portfolio also includes programs funded by the Local Rent Supplement Program, the DC Dept. of Mental Health, the Dept. of Human Services, HUD's Shelter Plus Care and Supportive Housing Program grants, the Veterans Administration, and a variety of private sources.

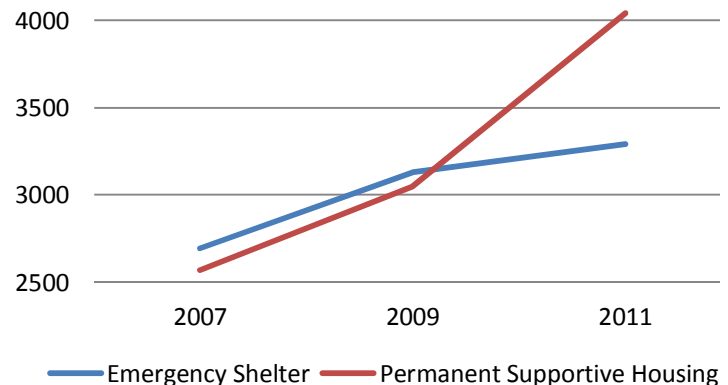
The graphs at right illustrate how the District's Continuum of Care has become one that is focused on housing instead of shelter. Indeed, the city has added some 1,500 units of Permanent Supportive Housing in recent years, and these PSH resources now make up 45 percent of the District's homeless service resources. Without these resources many of the formerly homeless might still be living in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing facilities or on the street.

The Community Partnership and the District of Columbia recognize Permanent Supportive Housing as the solution to chronic homelessness. These resources provide increased stability for the most vulnerable of our homeless population and move us closer to our goal of ending homelessness.

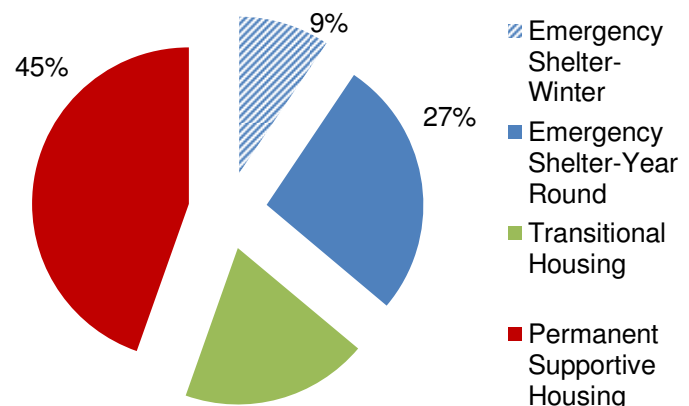
Literally & Formerly Homeless Persons Counted at Point in Time, 2007-2011



Emergency Shelter & Permanent Supportive Housing (Beds for Singles & Units for Families), by Year



DC Continuum of Care Resources by Type, 2011



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